

IMPORTANT FROM WASHINGTON.

Final Passage of the Gold Bill by Congress.

Intense Excitement Among the Speculators.

The Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation Bill Passed by the Senate.

The Bill to Dismiss Unemployed Generals Probably Laid on the Shelf.

Important Proposition Relative to Deserters.

Passage of the Post Office Appropriation Bill by the House,

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WASHINGTON, March 15, 1864.

PASSAGE OF THE GOLD BILL BY CONGRESS.
There was an intense excitement during the consideration of the Gold bill in the House, to day. As the time approached for taking the vote the speculators and interested parties crowded the galleries in the vicinity of the telegraph office, in order to get their despatches through the instant it was decided. When the House adopted the amendment of Mr. Hubbard, of New York, providing that nothing in the resolution should impair the Sinking Fund established by the act of February 25, 1862, although its terms had no practical effect upon the efficiency of the law, its passage was regarded as almost certain.

There was an immediate rush for the telegraph office in the rear of the reporters' gallery, and messages and greenbacks rolled in upon the operator in large numbers. In the reporters' gallery were a number of the speculators, who crowded themselves in and waited in breathless suspense for the final vote. As soon as the counting of the votes and tally commenced it became evident that there was a considerable majority in favor of the measure. Without waiting for the declaration of the vote there was a stampede for the telegraph office, and it was at once filled with an eager, excited and passing crowd, each individual struggling for the chance to get his message to his confederates in New York ahead. Twenty-five and fifty dollars were repeatedly offered to the operator to pass messages ahead and sent them out of their regular order, which offers were of course refused.

There was considerable alteration among the throng of spectators for precedence, individuals acting as though their fortune depended upon five minutes start in the transmission of their despatches. The telegraph company, if no one else, made a profitable day's work out of it.

The vote astonished everybody, it having been thought that it would be very close, and no one anticipated a majority of twenty-six in favor. Mr. Boutwell duly voted for it, although he made the strongest speech against it of any of his opponents in the debate.

Much surprise is expressed at the stiffness of the New York market under the passage of the act; but this is regarded as only temporary, as Mr. Chase will, it is understood, immediately avail himself of the power placed in his hands to reduce the market and reduce the premium to a more reasonable amount.

The Senate has concurred in the House amendment to the Gold bill, which now only awaits the signature to be come a law.

THE BILL RELATIVE TO THE UNEMPLOYED GENERAL OFFICERS.
After the passage of the Gold bill, the House took up the special order, using the resolution reported by the Military Committee discussing unemployed general officers from the service, which was debated until the adjournment. Mr. Cox was a short but effective speech against the measure, and a substitute was presented providing for an examining board to investigate the cases of such officers, instead of summarily dismissing them, as is provided by the resolution. The matter was finally by general consent postponed for three weeks. The adoption of the measures or of the substitute is very problematical, owing to the political complications attendant upon it. It is regarded as probable that it will be quickly shelved, at least until after the Presidential election.

IMPORTANT BILL RELATIVE TO ARMY DESERTERS.
The bill introduced into the Senate to day by Mr. Wilson, relative to deserters from the army, is regarded as being eminently necessary, and will be acted upon at the first favorable opportunity. It effectively destroys the clemency of every deserter who fails to return prior to a period to be fixed by the President, depriving him of the privilege of ever holding any office of trust or profit under the government. Those who return will be pardoned, but forced pay and allowances for the period of absence.

BAILIFFS FACILITATED BETWEEN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON.
The agitation in Congress relative to increased facilities for travel between New York and Washington daily becomes a more significant. To day petitions were presented to the Senate praying immediate action upon the subject. Congress has been already divided with these members:

DELEGATES FROM THE NAVY.
The Secretary of the Navy, in a general order, dismisses from the navy Acting Chief Engineers Thomas Doughty and Acting First Assistant Engineer G. H. Hobbs, from February 29, it being clearly proven that they furnished the sum of the United States steamer Oregon with \$10,000, in violation of an act of Congress, which caused improper and dishonorable conduct, for which one of them, Edward McNamee, a fireman, was sentenced to death, but in consideration of this fact his sentence was commuted to ten years' confinement at hard labor in a penitentiary.

THE REBELLION IN THE RAILROAD CARS.
Mr. Sumner to day introduced the bill into the Senate, in an amendment to the City Railroad bill allowing negroes to ride all the cars. Mr. Saulsbury denounced the measure in a characteristic speech, and there is a strong probability of a tedious and unprofitable debate to-morrow afternoon. Mr. Johnson has the floor, and it is understood Mr. Davis will also relieve his mind upon the subject in his usual exhausting manner.

THE BATTAGLION STILL AT CALLIS.
It is officially known that the statement that the Battaglione has left Callis and gone to sea is erroneous. She was still detained at Callis on the 25th of February, and her case was under consideration of the French government.

THE CASE OF MR. O. A. HENDERSON.
Colonel Hovey, the special detective of the War Department, recently detailed to examine into alleged frauds in the Treasury Department, has made a report upon the case of Mr. O. A. Henderson, warrant clerk, showing that the charges made were not sustained by the evidence.

NATIONAL BANK SMALL NOTES.
The statement that the Secretary of the Treasury and Comptroller of the Currency are in favor of the national bank small notes of less denominations than five dollars is incorrect. The Secretary is opposed to such issues.

THE GOODYEAR INDIA RUBBER PATENT.
The statement made before the Senate Committee on Patents is true. Congress, instead of passing a bill to extend the Goodyear patent, should, in view of the frauds already perpetrated, make an ample justice to the public, pass a bill to seize the patent now existing.

RELIEF OF PRISONERS.
At the suggestion of Dr. Chace, the President has pardoned and released G. S. Morrison and J. L. Collier, who prisoners of war, could sit in the Old Capitol prison.

THE WHALE'S OILY MARSHAL.
In the Wall Street mail to day the cross examination of Commissioner Peltier was continued. His testimony went to show the activity of the accused while he had possession of the Vicksburg, in carrying about in the West Indies after the rebel privates, and the superior greed of that vessel to the rest of the squadron.

SOUTHERN RAUCH'S MOVEMENTS.
Sir G. H. Rauch, Medical Director of the Ninth Massachusetts, leaves to-morrow to take charge of the medical department in Michigan, headquarters at Detroit.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S DEFICIENCY BILL.
The deficiency bill, which has now become a law, contains the following appropriations:

For repairing the repairs of the government works on State Island \$10,000; for alterations of the Cas-

ton House in Cincinnati, \$25,000; for alterations of the Custom House in Louisville, Ky., \$15,000; for the construction of the Custom House at Dubuque, Iowa, \$30,000; for repairs and preservation of custom houses, marine hospitals and other public buildings, \$10,000; for erecting a naval of the Treasury Department, \$10,000; for erecting a naval hospital at Albany, Me., \$25,000; for extending the Naval Hospital at Philadelphia and for erecting a naval hospital in Washington, D. C., \$25,000.

THIRTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS.
FIRST SESSION.

Senate.
WASHINGTON, March 15, 1864.

RAILROAD FACILITIES BETWEEN NEW YORK AND PHILADELPHIA.

M. Harris, (rep.) of N. Y., offered a petition of eighty-nine members of the New York Legislature in favor of increased railroad and mail facilities between New York and Philadelphia.

Mrs. Elyson, (rep.) of N. J., presented a similar petition from citizens of New Jersey.

Mrs. Bogart, (opp.) of Pa., presented a similar petition from citizens of Pennsylvania.

The foregoing petitions were referred to the Committee on Posts and Roads.

JOHNSTON'S AMENDMENT.

Mr. Johnston, (opp.) of Md., from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported back the bill regulating proceedings in criminal cases for the trial of persons captured in rebellion.

Mr. Howard offered the following resolution:

That the Committee on Finance report to the appropriate committee of the House a bill to amend the act of February 25, 1862, so as to give the Committee on Posts and Roads the power to require the payment of interest on the bills of exchange issued by the Postmaster General.

The bill, as it stands, authorizes the Postmaster General to require payment of interest on the bills of exchange issued by the Postmaster General.

The bill was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The bill is designed to authorize the transportation of persons captured in rebellion, and to amend the act for the trial of persons captured in rebellion, so as to make the trial of rebels in the District of Columbia in the same manner as trials of rebels in the field.

The resolution was agreed to.

REWARD FOR VOLUNTEER NAVAL OFFICERS.

Mr. H. Ward, (opp.) of N. H., offered the following resolution:

That the Committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to inquire of the commanding officer of the U. S. Navy, what sum of money is necessary to reward volunteers in the service of the country.

The resolution was agreed to.

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